



General Method Statement.

Knapsack Pesticide Spraying.

Introduction.

During vegetation clearance and general maintenance of the canal line, the use of pesticide spraying will be required to reduce or eradicate various plants species which are none native and invasive or causing damage to the structure of the canal.

After preliminary investigations, the most effective and safe form of removal will be applied. If physical removal of the plant is not possible, Knapsack Pesticide Spraying may be required in either a spot or localized area spraying.

Method.

Only operatives with a full and valid 'Certificate of Competence' will be allowed to carry out pesticide spraying work having completed and passed a recognised course.

All work will be carried out in line with 'Pesticides – Code of Practice for using plant protection products - 2006' issued by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA).

No work to clean spraying equipment, use equipment or the handling of pesticide products will be done without wearing suitable Personnel Protective Equipment (PPE).

After identification of the plants to be removed and there location, an 'Environment Risk Assessment - Knapsack spraying' will be carried out. This is to ascertain the correct pesticide product required for the plants to be destroyed safely and the correct application required (i.e. nozzle size, strength of pesticide, coverage, etc.). Consideration to also be given to the proximity of the general public, animals, insects and weather conditions. Spraying must not be carried out if there is a risk of the pesticide coming in to contact with anyone or anything other than the plants to be eradicated.

The suitable pesticide for the plant to be removed, will only be purchased by the approved licenced operator, to be used in the specific spraying equipment available. The pesticide product will only be used in line with the manufactures label instructions. COSHH (Control of Substances Hazardous to Health) Assessment will be made of the product to be used and suitable arrangement will be made to ensure the safety of the operator, assistant and the general public in the case of an emergency.

Any spraying work will be carried out by a minimum of a 2 person team. The assistant to the licenced spraying operator to be aware of any action that may be required in the case of an emergency situation. i.e. Emergency telephone numbers, spillage of pesticide, contamination of the spraying operator, general public, animals, etc.

No pesticide spraying to be carried out in windy or wet conditions.

If spraying is to take place close to residential property, warning must be given to the residents of the spraying about to take place. Residents can then take suitable action. i.e. closing windows, restricting their movements, keeping pets indoors, etc.

Using pesticides close to the water to be carried out with care, to ensure that the pesticide does not contaminate the wildlife and water. Spraying will be carried out against the flow of water in the canal.

During the spraying operation, suitable warning signs are to be positioned around the area to be treated with the area being cordoned off to the general public, if required. Banks-men will be positioned around the area to be treated to ensure that the general public and animals do not enter the area whilst spraying is carried out. Spraying will be suspended if animals enter the area being treated.

After the pesticides have been applied, suitable signs to be left in position advising the public of the existence of pesticide use and warning of the contamination.

Records to be retained of each spraying operation, with a specific risk assessment or the spraying operation and what follow up work may be required.

Risk Assessment.

See attached General Risk Assessment sheet for Knapsack Pesticide Spraying. A project specific Risk Assessment to be carried out before any spraying operation is undertaken.

Conclusion.

The work will be carried out with consideration of the general public and wild life. With the precautions being taken, there will be no risk to to the general public or DSCT volunteers during the this work.

Signed -

Date -

on behalf of the Derby and Sandiacre Trust